

# 2018 NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF REGULATORY ATTORNEYS

SESSION 11: STATE RESPONSES IN TELECOM  
POLICY AT THE FEDERAL LEVEL

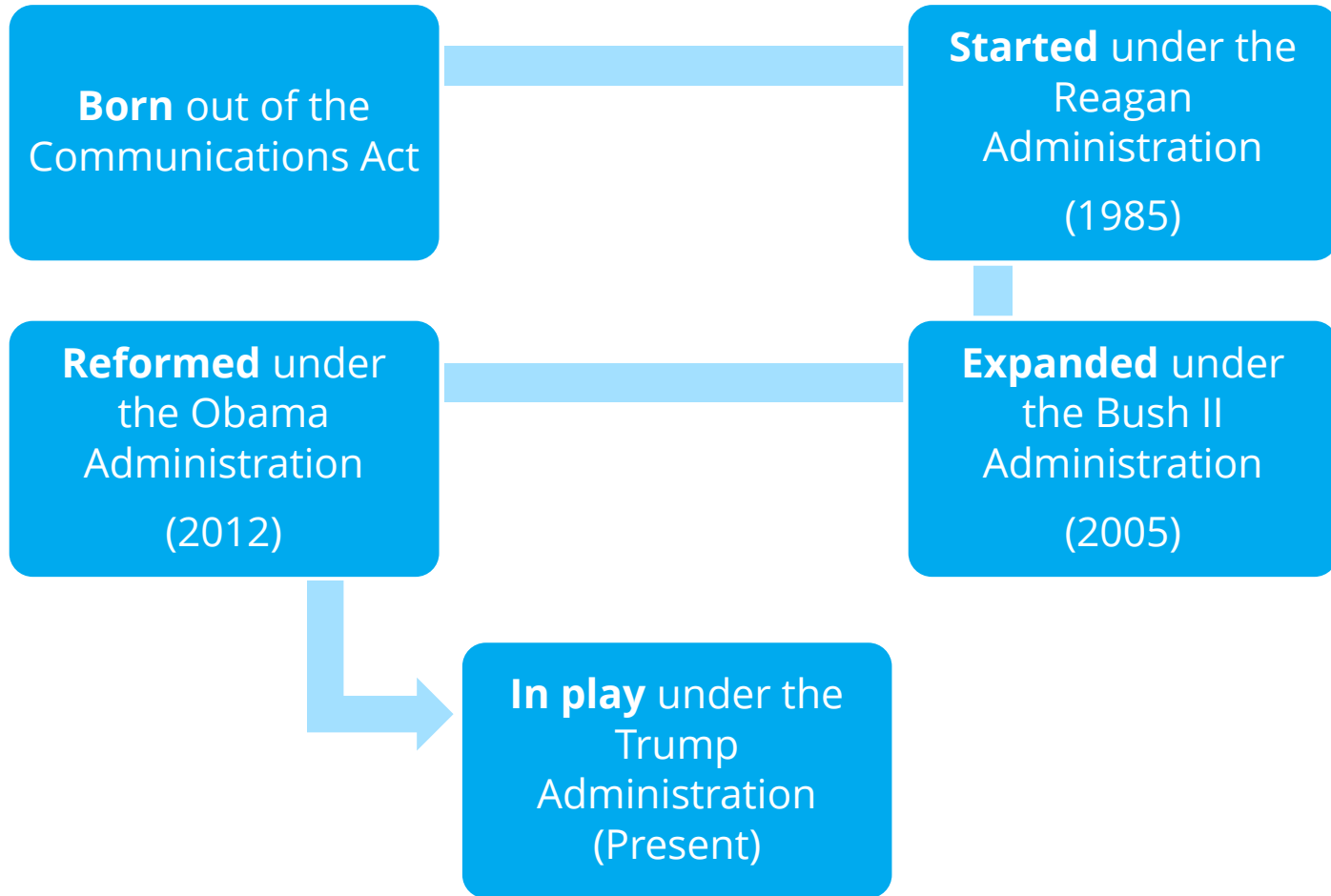
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**JOHN J. HEITMANN**

jheitmann@kelleydrye.com  
(202) 342-8544



# History of the Lifeline Program



# Lifeline Facts and Figures\*

Total Eligible Population	33 million
Total Subscribers	10.5 million
Total Wireless	9.5 million
Total Reseller Wireless	7.2 million
Total Veterans	1.3 million
Percentage of Subscribers Using Lifeline for Connection to Medical Staff	54%
Percentage of Subscribers Using Lifeline to Find or Keep a Job	49%
Percentage of Subscribers Unbanked	70%
Percentage of Subscribers Rural/Suburban/Urban	27/33/40%
Percentage of Subscribers Female	55%
Percentage of Subscribers Over Age 55	34%
Percentage of Subscribers Disabled and Unable to Work	36%
Percentage of Subscribers Earning Less Than \$10,000 Per Year	50%

\*Source: various filings in FCC WC Dockets 11-42, 17-287

# December 2017 FCC Lifeline Item

- Tribal Order
- Port Freeze Reconsideration Order
- Premium Wi-Fi Order
- NPRM
- NOI



# Tribal Order

- Targeting support to rural Tribal areas
- Mapping and independent verification of residency on Tribal lands
- Targeting support to facilities-based providers
- Effective date
  - These changes will be effective 90 days after the Wireline Competition Bureau announces that the Commission has received approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for the new information collection requirements subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act
- Appeal underway at D.C. Circuit

# Port Freezes and Premium Wi-Fi

- 60-day port freeze
- 90-day port freeze
- Tech neutrality and premium Wi-Fi
- Petitions for Reconsideration filed at the FCC



# Lifeline Rulemaking

- States' role in program administration
  - LBP and National Verifier (NV)
- Targeting support to facilities-based providers
  - Section 10 forbearance regarding facilities and ETC and PUC reliance interests; pass through/proper use of funds
- Targeting waste, fraud and abuse
  - NV; risk-based auditing; agent controls; and conduct-based requirements
- Other issues
  - Voice sunset and broadband support; self-enforcing budget; maximum discount and targeting non-adopters; and minimum service standards/units

# Lifeline Notice of Inquiry

- Targeting support to rural and Tribal areas/unserved areas
- Benefit limits
- Program goals and metrics





# QUESTIONS?



## **JOHN J. HEITMANN**

Chair and Partner  
Communications  
(202) 342-8544  
[jheitmann@kelleydrye.com](mailto:jheitmann@kelleydrye.com)